

Institutional Facilities

We occasionally receive complaints about, or requests to inspect, various correctional or institutional facilities. These **are not** regulated facilities and fall outside of the authority of the state and most local health departments. We do not conduct routine inspections of these facilities. We can, and if workload permits should, offer management of these facilities the benefits of our knowledge and expertise in public health. We can conduct field visits and make recommendations based on the science of public health found in the food code, lodging manual, onsite sewage regulations and the private water portion of the EHOG. These field visits should be documented on an E-6.07 Sanitation Observation form, not any type of official report form.

We must be perfectly clear that these are recommendations to protect the health and safety of the inhabitants of the facility and not health department regulations. Other agencies may have ordinances or regulations that affect these facilities, and so we must be clear that our recommendations do not supercede the authority of building departments, housing authorities, fire marshals office or other authorities.

General reference may be made to the following rules: 19 CSR 20-3.050 Sanitation and Safety Standards for Lodging Establishments, 19 CSR 20-3.060 Minimum Construction Standards for On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems, the 1999 Missouri Food Code and Section 6 of the EHOG: Private Water Supplies. These are only guidelines and are not requirements.

Penal Centers

Penal centers are shelters where occupants are confined or housed under some degree of restraint or security.

- State operated penal centers are administered by the Department of Corrections.
- County jails are administered by the county sheriff.
- The local police department administers city jails.

Inspections

- State and/or local health departments do not routinely perform inspection of penal centers.
- State and/or local health departments do not have authority to conduct inspections of penal centers.
- However, state and/or local health departments may act as consultants upon receiving a request from the appropriate authority, such as, the Board of Visitors or a Circuit Judge.

Complaints

- When a complaint is received on a state-operated penal center the complaint shall be forwarded immediately to BERL.
- When a complaint is received on a city or county jail the complaint shall be forwarded immediately to the City Council/County Commission or the Circuit Court Judge/Board of Visitors.

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- The state and/or local health department may not participate in an investigation without the consent of the local sheriff or police department.

Institutional Housing

General reference may be made to the following rules: 19 CSR 20-3.050 Sanitation and Safety Standards for Lodging Establishments, 19 CSR 20-3.060 Minimum Construction Standards for On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems, the 1999 Missouri Food Code and Section 6 of the EHOG: Private Water Supplies. These are only guidelines and are not requirements.

Inspections

- State and/or local health departments do not routinely perform inspection of institutional housing.
- State and/or local health departments do not have state authority to conduct inspections of institutional housing.
- Some local jurisdictions have housing ordinances, which would include this area; however, local health departments do not normally become involved in the inspection process of these facilities.
- In the absence of local housing ordinances, the local health department may act as consultants upon receiving a request from the appropriate authority, such as, the city building Code Inspector.

Complaints:

- When a complaint is received the complaint shall be forwarded immediately to the local housing or building or code enforcement officials if the facility is located in an area covered by local ordinance.
- Local health departments may act as consultants upon receiving a request from the appropriate authority, such as the Local Housing or Building Authority, or Code Enforcement Officials.